GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:605
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2005
IMPORT OF SUGAR
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna;Ponnuswamy Shri E.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to permit import of duty free raw sugar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the concessions being provided on such imports;

(c) whether the Government has received any representations for the review of the said policy in view of the likely increase in production of sugar during the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.605 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 09.05.2005 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a) & (b): As per the prevailing EXIM policy of the Government, all commodities, including raw sugar can be imported by actual users against Advance Licenses (ALS) obtained under the Duty Exemption Entitlement Certificate (DEEC) Scheme, under which such imports are exempted from duties but are subject to export obligation to be fulfilled within a stipulated period. The import of raw sugar under ALS would enable better utilization of installed capacity, increase duration of the crushing season of sugar mills and augment the domestic availability of sugar at reasonable price, thereby benefiting farmers, the industry and consumers.

(c), (d) & (e): Since the production in sugar year 2004-05 is expected to be less than last year, the presumable reference of the Hon`ble Members is to the likely increase in production of sugar during the sugar year 2005-06. Government has not received any representation in this regard.